

The American Observer

A free, virtuous, and enlightened people must know well the great principles and causes on which their happiness depends. -- James Monroe

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WASHINGTON, D. C.

NOVEMBER 27, 1939

Methods to Combat Crime Are Examined

Young People Can Play an Important Role in Reducing Crime in U. S.

DRASTIC ACTION NECESSARY

J. Edgar Hoover Compares Problem to Grave Epidemic Sweeping over the Entire Nation

A few weeks ago, an extremely important conference was held in San Francisco. Although it received little attention in the newspapers of the nation, it considered a problem which is of vital concern to the people of the United States. It was the convention of the International Association of Chiefs of Police and was attended by leading authorities on crime from all parts of the world. At one of the sessions, J. Edgar Hoover, chief of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, outlined the seriousness of the crime problem in the United States. He declared:

The Crime Problem

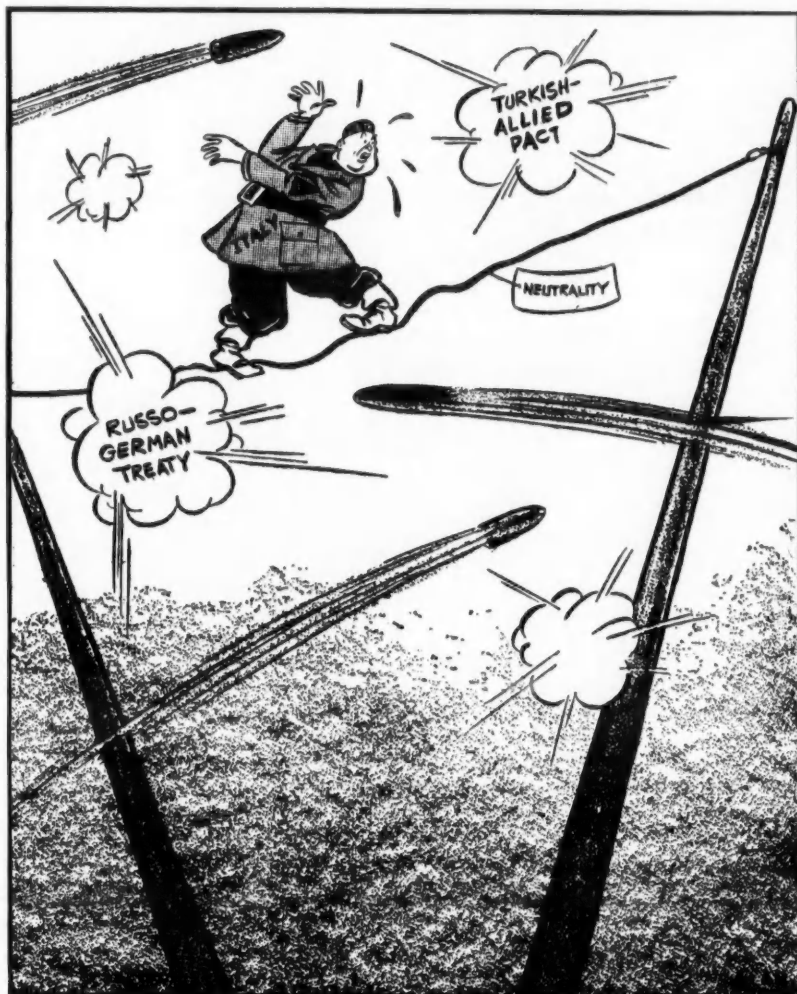
"Should a typhoid epidemic descend upon a city, shadowing it with the danger of illness, we would find thousands of volunteers ready and willing to risk their lives in an effort to protect their loved ones against the ravages of the foe. Yet the insidiousness of crime is such that even though a greater danger exists we find that the average citizen reads his newspaper, sees the black headlines screaming the details of conditions which are as symptomatic in their way as the ravages of the most deadly disease that ever has swept this country. Practically nothing is done about it.

"So I am telling you now that conditions have reached the place where you can take your choice! You can rise up and fight. You can use some of the fortitude which is supposed to have been granted the American people through the courage which made this country the greatest independent nation of the world. You can gird yourself for a long and difficult fight upon armed forces of crime which number more than three million active participants, and by so doing you can set yourself free from the dominance of this underworld army. If you do not care to do this, then you can make up your mind to submit to what really amounts to an actual armed invasion of America."

If we should decide to rise to the occasion and to fight against this crime army which has fastened itself upon America, how could we go about it? What are the first steps in the war against crime? It will be necessary, of course, to study carefully the causes of crime. We are already familiar with some of these causes. We know that poverty breeds crime; that people who live in miserable, uncomfortable, and insanitary houses are more likely to fall into evil habits than are those whose environment is more healthful and agreeable. We know, furthermore, that unemployment is a breeder of crime, for those who cannot find means of earning an honest living are more likely to turn to dishonest means than are those who find a way to provide for their needs lawfully and honestly.

If, then, we mean business in our war on crime, we must dig deeply into the causes and we shall find ourselves face to face with several of the most difficult social and economic problems of American life. These problems cannot be ignored, and we

(Concluded on page 8)



NO REST FOR THE WARY

KLEIN IN HAMILTON JOURNAL-THE DAILY NEWS

Italy Weighs Cost Of Neutral Course

Popular Sentiment Opposes Any Participation in Conflict in Western Europe

FASCISTS LOSING PRESTIGE

Italian People Seem to Be Turning Away from Mussolini to the King and to Conservative Leaders

A decided change has come over Italy within the last few months. Only last spring—as most readers will remember—Italy appeared to be one of the most warlike powers in Europe. Italian troops rode roughshod over Spain. Italians raised shrill territorial demands against France, threatened Britain, hailed the permanence of the Berlin-Rome Axis, and hinted that dire consequences would befall any nation which dared oppose it.

But today, more than two months after the outbreak of war, Italians are strangely silent. A number of curious incidents have aroused much speculation as to developments in the Italian peninsula. The recent elimination of pro-Germans from the cabinet; antiwar editorials in official newspapers; failure to celebrate the recent anniversary of the signing of the anti-Communist pact with Germany and Japan; growing attacks upon Russia in the press, coupled with reconciliation with Turkey and Greece; the fact that Italian papers no longer shout defiance at the Allies, and that Italians are now able to discuss politics in public—all these developments pose questions. Has something important happened in Italy? Has Mussolini abandoned his aims?

Italy's Aims

To answer the latter question, one must first ask another. What is it that Italy wants? It can be expressed simply. Italy desires supremacy in the Mediterranean. Italians desire control of that sea, not—curiously enough—because Italy is strong, but because she is weak. Most of her industries lie in the plains of Piedmont, Lombardy, and Venezia in the far north, within easy reach of German or French bombing planes. Her long coast line is vulnerable throughout its 2,500 miles. Italy is not compact and well integrated. The long mountain range running from the heel to the top of the Italian boot tends to separate the coastal cities of east and west. Much of her farm land is unproductive. Italy cannot produce sufficient food to feed her 45,000,000 people. With the exception of bauxite, lead, and zinc, she is desperately poor in minerals and other raw materials. It is as though nature gave to Italy her excellent climate and striking vistas only at the expense of nearly everything that a modern industrial power needs.

As a result, Italians must look to the Mediterranean. Their national interests and investments lie in its islands, in colonies to the south of it, and in its trade lanes, through which come 86 per cent of Italy's much-needed imports. Italians feel that they are at the mercy of any power which dominates the Mediterranean. To prevent our being locked up in that sea, the Italian nationalist says, we must obtain supremacy in it.

This policy did not originate with Mussolini, but no ruler in modern Italian history has striven more persistently in pursuit of it. Ever since he made himself dictator at the climax of the famous

(Concluded on page 3)

A Word From Einstein

Can one be a good citizen merely by training his mind and by being competent in his work, or must he develop the right habits of character as well? That is a subject frequently discussed. Every reader of this paper has heard many times that character, as well as a trained intellect and a high degree of skill, is an essential to success. You have heard that from your teachers. You have probably heard it in church as well as in the classroom. But is all the advice which is given about the importance of character mere "preaching"? What would "practical" men say about it? Would great scientists who have made their reputations through their mastery of facts admit that facts alone will not save one and make him useful to society? Would they say that character is a necessary element in successful living?

Let us see what Albert Einstein, one of the greatest scientists of all time, has to say on this subject. He expressed himself in a message to the New Jersey Education Association at the time of its recent meeting in Atlantic City. Among other things, he said:

"I can picture a community of men capable of clear thought, judgment, and creative achievement who can make each other's lives quite difficult. Something more is needed to make a truly well-bred person: An ever-present feeling of social responsibility and understanding of one's fellow man.

"A sound social attitude is acquired chiefly not by learning, but by experience. Consideration and companionship must be practiced and appreciated. . . .

"Schools need not preach political doctrine to defend democracy. If they shape men capable of critical thought and trained in social attitudes, that is all that is necessary. Such people will go out into life endowed with all the qualities which sound democracy requires of its citizens."

Nearly all thinking people agree with the great scientist whom we have quoted. It is, of course, necessary that one should train his mind and acquire all the facts which he can obtain. One should be well informed and efficient, but efficient men and women may be enemies of society unless they use their powers and their influence for the welfare of others. To be a good citizen one must be sympathetic and considerate. He must really wish to make life more agreeable for all in his home, his school, his community, or his country. And that is a matter of character.

One who puts conscience into his work and who is not only efficient but just, honorable, companionable, and helpful will enjoy a personal satisfaction which cannot possibly be obtained by any other. Further, he will enjoy a popularity which is denied to the self-seeker and he will furnish to all an example of true patriotism.



STREET SCENE AT THE MARKET IN GUADALUPE HIDALGO, MEXICO

Three New Books Discuss Various Aspects of Life in Latin America

PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT'S "Good Neighbor" policy, the spread of fascist propaganda, and more recently the war in Europe have focused American attention on Latin America, and on the realization that as a people we are shockingly ignorant of the most commonplace facts about that vast region. Three Americans (or "North Americans" as United States citizens are called south of the Rio Grande) discovered their ignorance, went to Latin America, and their books reveal the information many other Americans want.

The books are "Americas to the South," by John T. Whitaker (New York: Macmillan, \$2.50), "South American Primer," by Katherine Carr (New York: Reynal and Hitchcock, \$1.75), and "Mexico Reborn," by Verna Carleton Millan (Boston: Houghton Mifflin, \$3.00).

Mr. Whitaker is a newspaperman, one of the Chicago *Daily News'* distinguished staff of foreign correspondents, and although his book suffers from a certain superficiality, he draws an excellent picture of present-day men and emotions in South America. Particularly absorbing are his impressions of Argentina, the mightiest of the Americas to the south.

Just as it would be hard for many Americans to conceive of a country greater than the United States, so the Argentines are also inordinately proud. When Mr. Whitaker told an Argentine student that there were 511 broadcasting stations in the United States, his friend replied, "Impossible! There aren't that many in Argentina." And it is Argentine pride that has refused to admit United States domination of the Western Hemisphere and has contributed in part to the often strained relations between Washington and Buenos Aires. Recently this hatred of the United States has subsided, particularly among the lower classes.

Although Washington's friendly policy is largely responsible for this, Mr. Whitaker gives even more credit to Hollywood, for American movies show Argentina a pleasant, if distorted, picture of the United States. And Argentina, beginning to fear possible aggression from Europe, now takes a

kindlier view of the Monroe Doctrine and the United States Navy.

One bone of contention remains, and that is our refusal to import fresh meat from Argentina because the foot and mouth disease is prevalent in some parts of that country. Until the embargo is lifted the powerful landowners who control the Argentine government will be hostile to this country.

The power of South American landowners as a class is well treated in Mrs. Carr's "Primer":

For the wealth of South America is not factories, or shares of stock, or bonds, but land—land on which is produced a great part of the world's wheat and coffee; land on which is pastured a great part of the world's livestock; land from which come minerals and oil which the world urgently needs.

Seven per cent of the population of South America own all the valuable land and through it control most of the governments. And, as Mrs. Carr points out, "Land is the most static, the least fluid form of wealth." The other 93 per cent are mostly peons, for there is no middle class. They live on the land but do not own it and cannot buy it even in the unlikely event that they can save enough money. Nor can this situation be immediately cured at the ballot box, because "the great masses of people are illiterate and cannot vote." In Latin America only Mexico, Mrs. Carr writes, has attempted a democratic division of land.

Another woman comes forward to tell us about Mexico. When Verna Millan first heard about Mexico in New York seven years ago, her name was not Millan; that was the name of a young Mexican doctor doing research in cancer. As his wife and as the mother of a brown-eyed, two-year-old daughter, Mrs. Millan now considers herself a Mexican.

She tells an incredible tale of witch doctors in present-day Mexico, of "wrinkled, filthy old women who brew mysterious teas and infusions over their charcoal fires. . . . If the patient recovers, the teas get the credit; if he dies the doctor takes the blame."

Nor were the charlatans much worse than the registered physicians, who flocked after the rich and treated the poor with cynical indifference. Corruption and graft rendered the public health service useless and the cities hotbeds of pestilence. And it was in the cities that all the doctors centered, for the cost of medical education restricted it to the rich and there was no money in rural practice. Mrs. Millan's husband founded the School of Rural Medicine and has abandoned cancer work in favor of the more pressing needs of public health. Mrs. Millan realizes that conditions are deplorably low in Mexico, but they are improving and she has learned to take a long-range, philosophic view. She has confidence in the future of her adopted country.

- Straight Thinking -

XII. Types of Thinkers

FOUR persons, whom we shall call A, B, C, and D, are asking about a fire which occurred in the town the night before. John Doe's store had burned, and they were discussing the loss when X came along and said that, as likely as not, Doe had set fire to the store himself. He said the store was not doing much business, and that the merchant probably concluded that he could make more money by burning it and collecting the insurance. That was all he said—no proof, just a suggestion of what might possibly have happened. We may now note the effect of this suggestion upon A, B, C, and D.

A was not impressed one way or the other. He took no particular interest in the remark. He was a dull fellow, did not care much about what happened in the neighborhood, and ideas suggested to him had about the same effect as water on a duck's back.

B was greatly impressed, accepted the suggestion as a true statement of the case and went away, saying to everyone he met, "Did you know that John Doe burned his store for the insurance?" In doing this, B was running true to form. He nearly always accepted any suggestion that was made to him, believed everything that he saw in the paper, and whenever anyone presented an idea to him he made it his own idea without question or investigation.

C had felt, before X came along, that perhaps John Doe had burned his store. He thought some of the circumstances looked a little suspicious, but when X made his remark C took the other side and defended Doe. He nearly always reacted that way. Instead of accepting an idea presented to him, he was inclined to reject it without investigation and to argue about it. It was his habit to oppose ideas presented by others.

D thought to himself, "What X says may or may not be true, but he has pre-

sented no evidence. If it is true, the insurance company will unearth the evidence. Until facts come out tending to convict Doe, I will assume that he is innocent. I will not think ill of anyone until I have a good reason to do so, but I will keep my mind open and listen to evidence if it should appear." That was the way D ordinarily responded to suggestions of any kind. When he read anything in the paper or when anyone presented an idea to him, he accepted it if it seemed reasonable, rejected it if it seemed unreasonable, and held his mind open to further evidence if he had no way of knowing what the facts were.

Which of these is the straight thinker?

"Proclamation of Public Thanksgiving"

By Wilbur L. Cross, November, 1938, at which time he was governor of Connecticut.

... We are stirred once more to ponder the Infinite Goodness that has set apart for us, in all this mystery of creation, a time for living and a home. . . . In such a spirit I call upon the people to acknowledge heartily, in friendly gathering and house of prayer, the increase of the season nearing now its close: the harvest of earth, the yield of patient mind and faithful hand, that have kept us fed and clothed and have made for us a shelter even against the storm. It is right that we whose arc of sky has been darkened by no war hawk, who have been forced by no man to stand and speak when to speak was to choose between death and life, should give thanks for the further mercies we have enjoyed, beyond desert or any estimation, Justice, Freedom, Loving-kindness, Peace . . . those proudest of man's ideals, which burn, though it be like candles fitfully in our gusty world, with a light so clear we name its source divine.

What the Magazines Say

"WILL civilization be destroyed by mankind? Have man's peaceful instincts been completely overshadowed by his warring instincts?" These two questions form the backbone of an excellent article, "The Real Threat: Not Bombs, But Ideas," by Lin Yutang, in the *New York Times Magazine* for November 12. Lin Yutang, who is a famous Chinese philosopher and writer well known in the United States, takes a long-time view of the wars in Europe and in the Far East. He looks for end results and future outcomes rather than the terrifying aspects of the present. He writes:

"Many foremost thinkers of today are rather inclined to believe that modern civilization as we know it will be destroyed. I beg profoundly to differ. Knowing that the

ties and privileges of living are more consciously appreciated. . . . It is neither the machine nor war that is destroying modern civilization but the tendency to surrender the rights of the individual to the state which is such a powerful factor in contemporary thinking."

And he concludes: "All of a sudden the soldier sees the great naked truth that life is worth living for its own sake. . . . In fact, one suddenly realizes that all the good things of life—the morning coffee, fresh air, a stroll in the afternoon, even dashing for the subway or dodging friends among commuters in the morning train—constitute life and, therefore, really constitute civilization because they constitute the very end of living. War makes us realize the importance of the things we ordinarily take for granted."

Pierre van Passen, in *Living Age* for November, has written a short but vivid sketch, "To Die for Poland . . ." which shows the reactions of French villagers to the war. The trend of the whole article can be summed up in the words of the old Frenchman speaking to the writer as he sent his son to war: "For freedom?" he came back at last, "Ah, there is always some good excuse. But isn't that what we were told last time? Is France better off now than before the war? Everybody knows that things have been far worse these last few years. Isn't it pure idiocy, then, to try again a remedy that turned out to be poison?"

"St. Louis: A City in Decay," by Charles Edmundson, in *Forum* for November, is a valuable article in that it presents a case study of an American city noted for corruption which contains many tendencies found in other cities. Mr. Edmundson summarizes its condition: "Presumably St. Louis is no worse off than many other American cities and not as badly off as some. But nevertheless she is a prime example of the discouraging plight of an urban center which is attacked by political paralysis and economic dry rot. As for the citizens, they are in the main complacent about both conditions. Unable to summon the initiative or resolution to deal with either set of problems, they let the city drift."

The only solution, as Mr. Edmundson sees it, for St. Louis or any other city similarly afflicted, lies in an awakening of wise and able men to an interest in political affairs.

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Italy Studies Foreign Policy

(Concluded from page 1, column 4)

"march on Rome" in 1922, Mussolini has pushed toward this single end. To compensate for the lack of coal, iron ore, petroleum, wool, and other important commodities, heroic efforts were made to develop Italy's considerable hydroelectric power resources, to modernize farming methods, reclaim marginal land (the Pontine marshes in particular), and to develop substitutes along German lines. To make this possible Fascism crushed individual rights, gagged the press and all forms of the spoken and written word. To pursue the impossible end of self-sufficiency, and to build up a great military machine, Italians have had to endure privations of all kinds—low wages, long hours, bad bread, and the prying, dreaded secret-police activities of the Ova.

The Fascist Program

In these matters all power was assumed by Mussolini. He was, it was said, the instrument through which Italy would achieve her destiny. Into his hands all the resources, energies, and talents of the state were placed. As creator of Italian Fascism, and author of its corporate law, Mussolini coordinated these energies and gave them direction. When he turned to foreign affairs the Italian dictator launched Italy on numerous adventures, but all led toward the same end. Italian strength in the inland sea could be gained only at the expense of Great Britain and France. Thus in 1935 he strove to weaken Great Britain in the eastern Mediterranean, at Suez, and in the Red Sea, by annexing Ethiopia. The following year he struck indirectly at the British and French in the western end of the sea by plotting and supporting the insurgent revolution in Spain, thus overthrowing a government friendly to France. Invasion and annexation of Albania, last April, further consolidated Italy's position in the Adriatic.

But just as Italians had to pay dearly for Fascism at home, so has Italy had to pay for her international ventures. Too weak to act alone, she needed an ally, and turned to Germany by signing the Anti-Comintern Pact in 1936, a pact which was presumably directed against communism. After that Hitler took what he wanted and Italy supported him, but Italy was obviously on the short end of the Axis. The front with Germany was never popular in Italy, but Italians consoled themselves with the belief that, in the long run, it would enable them to achieve their objectives. Germany would get what she wanted in eastern Europe, and Italy would obtain her ends in the Mediterranean, if only the two stuck together and acted with some caution. Britain and France, it was believed, would never resist. The Munich Pact strengthened this belief. It was assumed, therefore, that when Germany invaded Poland, late in August, Italy would stand by and prepare to enter that heroic "final phase" in which Great Britain and France would be pushed aside.

Reaction in Italy

Some months before the war began, however, a reaction was making itself felt in Italy. Almost imperceptible at first, it was noticeable as far back as May of this year when the Italian government first learned that the Allies were really determined to resist further aggression. At the same time, Italians were showing evidences of anti-Germanism. Mussolini suddenly lapsed into silence and had no more to say concerning his demands on France for territories. Several months went by. On August 10, Mussolini's son-in-law foreign minister, Count Ciano, conferred with Hitler at Salzburg on the subject of Poland. Details of the conference are shrouded in mystery, but Ciano returned in a greatly perturbed state of mind. Rumors began to fly. Italy, fearing war, was becoming nervous.

Signing of the nonaggression pact between Russia and Germany on August 24 shocked Italians deeply, for they had long been told that their alliance with Germany



MUSSOLINI SEEKS TO PRESERVE THE NEUTRALITY OF ITALY

was directed against communism. On the same day, President Roosevelt's peace message, directed to the king of Italy, arrived. It created a favorable impression, and feeling against Germany and Russia grew.

Then, in quick succession, things began to happen. The large Italian army concentrated along the French border was split into two sections and divided between the French and German borders under the commands of Prince Umberto, heir to the Italian throne, and General Graziani. The blackshirts, the elite guard of the Fascist party, were stripped of privileges, incorporated into the regular army, and reduced in pay from 40 cents a day to the army level of five cents. It was widely rumored that King Victor Emmanuel refused on September 2 to sign a mobilization order prepared by Mussolini. By September 6 the Italian press began to relax its fiery denunciations of the Allies, and by the ninth it was reporting news with a fair degree of objectivity.

As tension slackened, and Italy began to breathe more easily, Mussolini remained strangely silent. Almost complete freedom of speech was restored in September and it proved that Il Duce was still popular. But the belief was strong that he had been led into dangerous paths by the advice of pro-Nazi radicals in the Fascist party and the army, seven of whom have been recently

ousted from the cabinet. As a counterbalance to the radicals, Italians were turning to the conservative influence of the army, the royal family, and the Catholic Church. They cheered three high-ranking army men, Marshals Badoglio and Italo Balbo, and General Rodolfo Graziani. They had cheers for the popular Prince Umberto. But above all they cheered their king. Sad, quiet, little Victor Emmanuel was emerging as a national hero, a savior of the peace. Whether he had taken a firm stand against Mussolini, as rumors asserted, or whether it had not been necessary is not clear. But in Italy it is believed that he did, which is important.

Important Shifts

As we have seen, this slow shift of the balance of power inside Italy was induced partly by outside events—the fear of war, dislike of the German alliance, and apprehension raised by the Russo-German accord. In its turn, the shift within the country began to affect foreign policy. While relations with Germany remained cordial, friendship with the Allies grew stronger. Trade with the Allies increased. Italians are buying coal from Wales, and selling aircraft motors to France. They are permitting the British naval blockade to operate without interruption in the Mediterranean. If they are still thinking in terms of their desire for Tunisia, Cor-

sica, and other French possessions, they are keeping it to themselves for the moment.

In the meantime a new problem has arisen. Long bolted into her confines in eastern Europe by the threat of joint German-Italian actions, Russia has been released by Germany, and is now threatening aggression in the Balkans. Italians are worried about this. They consider certain of the Balkan states, notably Yugoslavia, as their own backyard. They dread Russian penetration of this region. They dread a repetition of the pre-World War Pan-Slav movement in which Russians exploited racial ties between themselves and the Slav peoples of southeastern Europe to expand Russian power in the Balkans.

Interest in Balkans

It is very possible that Italy will fight to keep Russia out of the Balkan peninsula. The Italian press has been threatening this with steadily increasing intensity. In great haste the Italian government has concluded a friendship pact with Greece (with whom it has long been on poor terms), and offered conciliatory gestures to Turkey, its old enemy. As *THE AMERICAN OBSERVER* has noted previously, both Turkey and Italy are feverishly engaged in attempting to create a Balkan diplomatic front strong enough to discourage Russian aggression, and thus to eliminate the danger of a Balkan war. Since Turkey, Rumania, and Greece are allied with Great Britain and France, these moves are regarded with approval in London and Paris. And thus one sees the interesting picture of Italy, Hitler's former partner, working in the interests of the British-French alliance system against Germany's new ally, Russia.

This does not mean (as some partisans of the Allies have been quick to claim) that Italy has joined or will join the Allies. Italy probably desires nothing more than a quick end of the war. No matter how it ends, the war can offer her little. If the Allies win, they will stand for no more cries of "Tunisia, Corsica," from Italy, and they will rule the Mediterranean, as before. If Germany wins, she will be the one great power in western and central Europe, she will dominate the Mediterranean, and Germans will not forget, presumably, that their ally Italy deserted them twice in time of need—in 1914 and 1939. If Italy joins either side she faces the danger of becoming the battleground between France and Germany, and of seeing her northern industrial centers and great cities demolished. Even if the Allies should fight Germany to an exhausted stalemate, Italy would still have the power of Soviet Communism to reckon with.

Even among the experienced observers there is no agreement as to what Italy may do. Some think that Mussolini will wait until he is certain who is winning, and throw Italy in on the winning side. Others believe he will drive a hard territorial bargain with the Allies by threatening war against them. Still others believe he is already committed to war against the Allies, in spite of public opinion. There is even some belief that he will turn on Germany. The only certain thing is that whatever Italy may do, she will not swerve from her goal of supremacy in the Mediterranean.

Questions and References

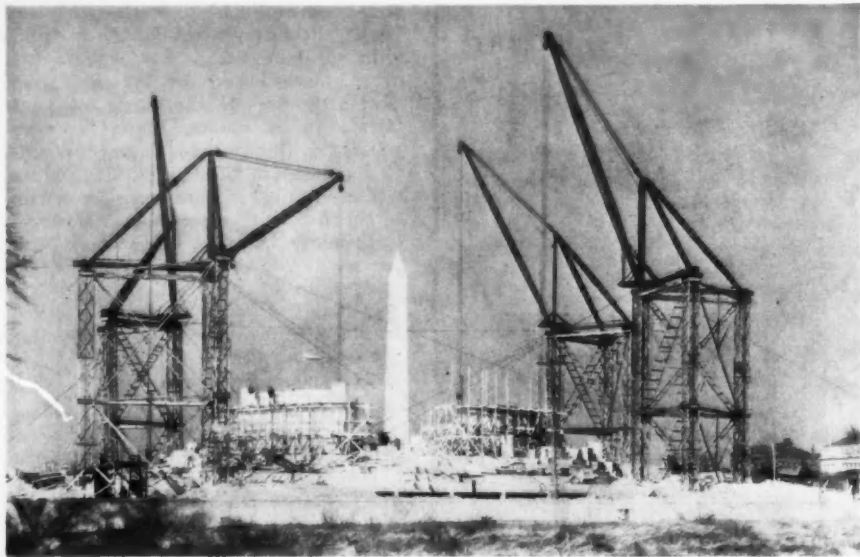
1. What are Italy's present relations with Greece? Albania? Turkey?
2. Why is Italy anxious to end the war in Europe?
3. What have these names in common—Graziani, Balbo, Badoglio, Umberto?
4. Why is Italy concerned about Russian activities in the Balkans?
5. Can you trace the steps which show a shift of sentiment in Italy?
6. If you were Mussolini, what course would you choose for Italy as regards (a) the European war, (b) Russia, (c) claims against France?
7. Why do Italians consider supremacy in the Mediterranean to be so important?
8. Who is Count Ciano? What is his relation to Mussolini?

REFERENCES: (a) Suez Canal and Italy, by A. Viton. *Asia*, June 1939, pp. 317-320. (b) Italian Peace Yearnings, by Anna L. Lingelbach. *Events*, November 1939, pp. 370-373. (c) Italy: the Bluffer State, by E. Wolff. *Current History*, April 1938, pp. 42-45. (d) Red Sea, Key to Empire, by A. Kiralfy. *Asia*, May 1939, pp. 263-266.



NATURAL AVENUE

The Brenner Pass, the natural route through the mountains which divide Italy and German Austria. If Italy joins in the war, on one side or on the other, the Brenner will have a position of critical importance.



TO THOMAS JEFFERSON

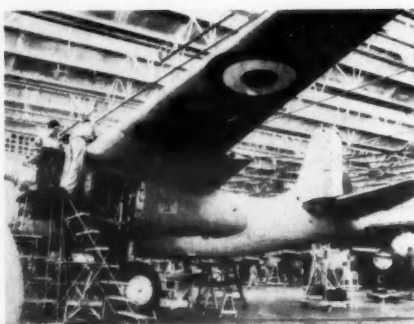
On the banks of the Tidal Basin in Washington, a memorial to Thomas Jefferson is rising. The cornerstone was laid by President Roosevelt a few days ago, and the structure is scheduled for completion by January 1941.

DOMESTIC

Cornerstones

Since George Washington laid the cornerstone of the National Capitol in 1793, presidents have been called upon to act at similar events throughout the country. True to this tradition, President Roosevelt officiated at the laying of two important cornerstones within the space of five days.

The first of these was on the Tidal Basin at Washington. Equipped with a silver trowel that had belonged to the first President, and a gavel, made from an elm tree planted by Jefferson, Roosevelt presided as a seven-ton block of marble was placed into the corner of the memorial being erected to Jefferson. He repeated Washington's words, "this stone is well and truly laid," and then assailed the rule of dictators by declaring that he followed Jefferson's ideas that "the average opinion of



RUSH JOB

This bomber is being constructed for the French government at the Douglas plant in California. Aircraft companies are speeding work on plane orders from the Allies.

mankind is in the long run superior to the dictates of the self-chosen."

The second cornerstone was laid by the President at his Hyde Park estate. It was for the library that shall house his papers and documents for the benefit of historians. Telling of his happy boyhood in that place, the President said:

This is a peaceful countryside and it seems appropriate that in this time of strife we should dedicate the library to the spirit of peace—peace for the United States, and soon we hope, peace for the world.

At both places, the President referred to 1941, and reporters speculated as to whether there was some indication of a third term. These speculations, however, Roosevelt soon put to rest by declaring that he had merely wanted to tease the press and that his references had no significance whatsoever.

A Justice Dies

Somber, black crepe will hang for over a month on the chair which the late Justice Pierce Butler occupied behind the Supreme Court bench. It is unlikely that his successor will be appointed, said President Roosevelt, until Congress returns for its regular session

in January. Then the appointment must be approved by the Senate, an action which may take from a few days to several weeks.

Meanwhile there has been a great deal of speculation about the President's choice. The name of Attorney General Frank Murphy is frequently mentioned, because he is a prominent New Deal official who is both a Catholic and a native of Michigan. These latter qualifications are considered, since the President may feel that Justice Butler's region (he came from Minnesota) and his religion should continue to have representation.

This appointment is the fifth vacancy—a majority of the nine-man court—which the President has had to fill. His previous appointees are Justices Hugo L. Black, Stanley F. Reed, Felix Frankfurter, and William O. Douglas. The other members of the Court now are Chief Justice Hughes, and Justices McReynolds, Stone, and Roberts.

More Employment

Secretary of Labor Frances Perkins recently announced that 1,250,000 more people were employed now than at this time last year, and added that industrial production was back to the "peak levels of 1929." Miss Perkins' figures and remarks did not include agriculture or farm workers. She went on to point out that the mechanization of industry permitted the nation to produce the same volume of goods as it was producing 10 years ago and still to be employing fewer men. Employment gains varied considerably, she said, and pointed out that the airplane, shipbuilding, and machine tool industries were employing even more than they had a decade ago. Other industries had been stimulated by war demands and were approaching 1929 levels. Building construction and allied industries, on the other hand, were far below the boom year in the matter of employment, although the secretary noted a steady increase in residential construction in the two years. On the whole she attributed the rise in employment to "a healthy recovery in manufacturing and business."

USHA Birthday

The United States Housing Authority recently celebrated its second birthday and its administrator, Nathan Straus, took that opportunity to sum up the Authority's achievement. The body's purpose is to lend money and technical aid to local housing authorities which wish to build low-rent dwellings for low-salaried persons now living in substandard housing. Although there are now 266 local agencies, there were only 46 two years ago, and the Authority has had to extend its activities gradually. Meanwhile its constitutionality has been attacked in the courts of 16 states, but has been upheld in each instance by the state supreme court.

Cities with approved housing projects may obtain 90 per cent of the necessary funds from the USHA, and to date the latter has advanced \$521,317,000 to 135 communities for 297 projects. Despite high building costs, the expense has been reduced to \$2,890 per dwelling unit. The rents will vary from an average of \$12.25 a month in the South to

The Week at Home

What the People of the World Are

\$17.50 in the North, where wages are higher. By the late spring of 1940, 121,000 dwellings will have been completed or will be under construction.

Lost: 9,000,000 Men

Nine million workers are lost, so far as the Social Security Board is concerned, and those of them who will be eligible to receive social security benefits on January 1, 1940, will not receive them unless they are located. This state of affairs has come about through the ignorance of employers and employees regarding the proper method of reporting to the board the names and social security numbers of workers and the taxes which they and their employers have paid. However, many of the 9,000,000 are only temporarily "lost" and every effort is being made to discover their identity and numbers, but the majority are said to be part-time or transient workers whom the board's 375 regional offices have been unable to locate. To combat these needless errors, the board has begun a twofold campaign—on the one hand, to teach employers to report both the name and number of their employees, and on the other, to encourage employed persons to write in to Washington and check up on their accounts.

The ILO in Havana

For the second time since it was set up by the Treaty of Versailles, the International Labor Organization last week convened to discuss and consider the labor problems of the New World. Although the United States did not join the organization until 1934, it is largely a product of the American labor movement. As early as 1914 it was outlined in a resolution passed by the American Federation of Labor, and at the close of the war, the AFL's president, Samuel Gompers, attended the Peace Conference and was chairman of the committee which drafted the plan of the ILO. When the Senate rejected the Treaty of Versailles, largely because of the articles setting up the League of Nations, it rejected the ILO. There is no connection between the two bodies, however, other than the fact that the League collects ILO dues from nations which belong to both. Our dues are paid directly to the ILO.

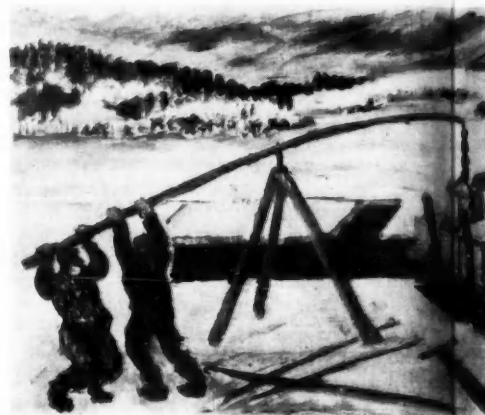
The permanent secretariat of the ILO serves as an international clearing house for information on labor problems and it also employs experts who do research of their own. The body holds conventions at which the workers and employers of the member nations are represented, as well as the governments. The panel of American delegates now in Havana represents a victory for the CIO, for that body has gained recognition for the first time and its secretary, James B. Carey, has been named to split the labor vote with George M. Harrison, AFL vice president. Clarence McDavitt, retired vice president of

the New England Telephone and Telegraph Company, is representing employers, and Arthur J. Altmeyer, chairman of the Social Security Board, and Josephine Roche, of the United States Public Health Service, are representing the government.

Federal Art

Ever since the federal government began its construction program as a means of relieving unemployment, hundreds of new post offices and courthouses have been built. There was a time when these buildings would have had plain foyers and corridors. Now they are being brightened with murals and pictures of historical events, industrial activity, farm life, and outdoor scenes. Thousands of American artists are competing for the opportunities to paint these colorful wall decorations.

Whenever a public building is to be decorated, the fine arts section of the Treasury Department announces a competition for artists. The artists submit samples of their work, which a jury of prominent artists and critics judge without knowing who did the paintings. The winner is awarded the job of

THE ICE CITTERS
From the design for a mural by Waldo Peirce, one of the many submitted by United States post office artists.

doing the murals. Since the plan was begun five years ago, many young painters have been encouraged in this way to continue their work.

Finance Monopoly

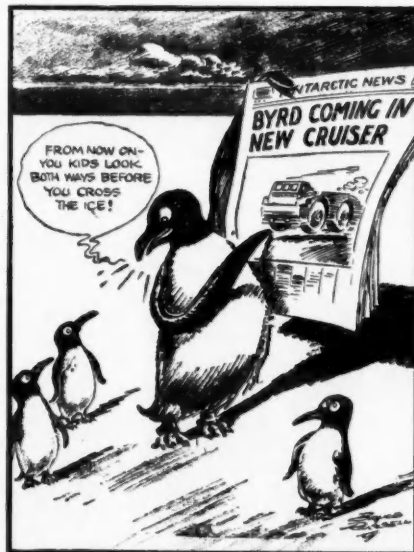
Three of the leading automobile manufacturers in the United States—General Motors, Chrysler Corporation, and Ford—were found guilty recently of violating the Sherman Anti-trust Act. This law forbids any industry to act or to make policies for its own benefit which would restrain trade and commerce in general. General Motors, the only one of the companies actually on trial, was accused of forcing its dealers to finance installment buying solely through the General Motors Acceptance Corporation.

Ford and Chrysler, who had been charged with the same practice, were allowed to withdraw from the case when they agreed to accept whatever verdict was handed down. Thus, the three of them were found guilty. Although nominal fines were assessed against the companies, it is likely that they will appeal the case to a higher court.

NLRB Investigation

Before Congress adjourned its regular session last summer, the House authorized a special committee to investigate the National Labor Relations Board. The committee's duty is to study testimony from both opponents and supporters of the board. The findings will provide a basis for future legislation, or for possible amendments to the law which created the NLRB.

Although the committee has not begun its hearings, it has mailed out over 70,000 questionnaires to get information about labor troubles. Labor unions and industries which have been involved in cases before the NLRB were asked how their trials were conducted,

THE DOG-SLED AND SNOWSHOE DAYS ARE OVER
RUSSELL IN LOS ANGELES TIMES

Home and Abroad

Are Doing, Saying, and Thinking

how the company or the union was treated by the board, and how the board's decision affected them. Three hundred professors of labor law were asked whether, in their opinion, the NLRB had exceeded the authority given to it by law. And 7,500 police chiefs were asked whether they had been called during labor troubles more times before or since 1935, when the labor board was created. With the mass of answers which are pouring in, the committee will have a background of information with which to guide its hearings.

FOREIGN

Far Eastern Riddle

As everyone knows, the principal objective of Japanese foreign policy is a victory in China and establishment of a "new order" in east Asia. In opposition to this policy have been Great Britain, France, the United States, and the Soviet Union, all of which have lent aid to China since the war began. Now it



ICE CUTTERS
The mural submitted in the competition for murals to be placed in State post offices.

appears that a showdown is approaching. Great Britain and France have their own war to fight; Russia has unofficially allied herself with their enemy, while the United States has bluntly warned, through its ambassador to Tokyo, that unless Japanese-American relations improve (that is to say, unless Japanese acts of aggression against American rights in China are stopped), there will be increased tension in the Far East.

Japan, then, finds herself in the position of having to make an important choice. What course will aid her most in achieving her aims in China? Most Japanese liberals, civilian intellectuals, and the older statesmen earnestly desire friendship with the United States and the Allies. The reactionary militarists who are supposed to be anti-Communist, curiously enough, are insisting upon a settlement with Russia which would bring Japan into the Berlin-Moscow front.

While the pros and cons have been thrashed out in Japan, a number of other developments have occurred. United States officials in the Far East have met in an important conference on policy in Manila. Great Britain and France have withdrawn most of their troops from North China international areas, either as a retreat or as a conciliatory gesture to Tokyo. A Russo-Japanese border commission has been appointed to settle the dispute over the Mongolian-Manchukuoan frontier. At Pakhoi, in the far south of China, Japanese troops have landed and pushed inland in an attempt to cut the two routes over which supplies can still flow from Britain and France to the Chinese government—the railroad from French Indo-China, and the highway from Burma.

News from Sinkiang

Two thousand miles west of Shanghai, in the heart of Asia, lie vast expanses of treeless steppes, almost cut off from the world by

mountains and deserts. Known as Sinkiang, the region is inhabited by some two million nomadic peoples who wander from pasture to pasture as their livestock denude the soil.

Although regarded as a Chinese province for thousands of years, Sinkiang has been bound loosely to China. The great Gobi desert, for instance, offered such obstacles to communications that in former days Sinkiang might have vanished into thin air and the Chinese government known nothing of it until months later. Down through the centuries, Sinkiang pursued its ancient way of life, ruled by a local government which paid lip service to Chinese rule, collected taxes years in advance, and opposed all new ideas.

In 1934 revolutionaries unseated the Sinkiang government and proclaimed independence from China, and as Chinese influence was driven out, Russian influence flowed in. Although news from that region has always been scarce, a few years ago it was apparent that Russia was extending her control over Sinkiang in much the same manner as she gained control of Outer Mongolia (now a People's Republic allied to Russia) to protect southern Siberia. Other nations are also interested. Japan, bent on conquering China, is anxious to stop the flow of Russian supplies through Sinkiang caravan routes to the Chinese government, and does not want Russia established in western China. Britain is interested in Sinkiang because it borders on India, and upon two British spheres of influence, Afghanistan and Tibet. With Japan, Russia, China, and Great Britain all striving to checkmate one another in Sinkiang today, that remote region has become a hotbed of intrigue.

War at Sea

While Allies and Germans continued to hold their land and air forces in check, last week, the German navy, which introduced the submarine-torpedo technique with such telling effect in the World War, began to explore new possibilities. For one thing, U-boats were set to work releasing clusters of floating mines off British shores in the North Sea. Consisting of iron spheres filled with high explosives, mines are extremely dangerous. Upon the slightest touch they explode under the water, with terrific force, against the bottom of a ship, tearing iron plates like paper and sending the vessel to the bottom almost at once. In the past, mines have been anchored to the sea bottom in "fields" rendering impassable a definite section of the ocean's surface. Neutrals are usually warned of their location, and most ships keep away from the fields. The new series of German mines are not anchored, but float idly with the current in clusters held together by thin cables. Difficult to discover, deadly in effect, they offer the greatest hazards not only to merchant shipping, but to the navy as well.

Another powerful and effective German weapon is the pocket battleship, a 10,000-ton



THE MODERN WAR OF NERVES
BROWN IN N. Y. HERALD-TRIBUNE



ARTISTIC FINNS TAKE PRECAUTIONS

Stores in European cities threatened by air raids are required to paste tape on their windows in order to prevent glass from flying in case of bomb explosions. Storekeepers in Finland obey the regulations, but some have been clever enough to tape windows in artistic designs, enhancing their attractiveness.

warship carrying guns heavy enough to sink the fast cruisers which can match its speed, nevertheless speedy enough to outrun the only craft which can stand up against its guns, the ponderous battleship. Germany owns three of these interesting craft, all of which are reported at large in the north Atlantic, Indian, and Pacific oceans. Using mines, sea raiders, and submarines, the Germans had destroyed close to 75 Allied merchant ships at the beginning of last week, losing only eight of their own.

As though in recognition of German successes on the seas, the Allied Supreme War Council recently decided to pool all British and French ships, purchasing agencies, and many stocks of important raw materials, thus adopting within three months of the outbreak of this war, measures which they delayed three years in adopting during the World War.

Mexico Faces Test

Once again Mexico appears to be on the threshold of a critical period in her history. The presidential term of Lázaro Cárdenas, who has introduced so many social reforms since his inauguration in 1935, is nearing completion, and Mexico—like the United States—will hold presidential elections next year. Since the Mexican constitution does not permit a president to seek reelection, the Cardenas Party of the Mexican Revolution has nominated a candidate to run in his place. He is General Manuel Avila Camacho, a long-time aide of Cardenas who has promised to maintain the social reforms of the revolutionary party and is supported by most of the Mexican trade unions, peasant confederations, and by the rank and file of the army.

The opposition candidate is General Juan Almazán, an extreme conservative, who is supported by land owners, business, and some of the older militarists. Although the campaign will not begin in earnest until January, there have already been indications that it will be bitterly fought. Camacho supporters are determined that the revolutionary gains shall be maintained, while Almazán supporters are grimly determined that they shall go. The domestic issue therefore is clear cut. Mexico is split just as bitterly over foreign issues, the Cardenas forces siding with the Allies in the European war, while the opposition raises lusty cheers every time a picture of Hitler appears in one of the more expensive movie houses. Many observers fear that the Mexican elections in 1940 may give rise to a serious constitutional crisis.

Railway to Baghdad

Thirty years ago German nationalists dreamed of a great Berlin-to-Baghdad railway which would bind together a German system of economic and political alliances, cutting a broad path southeast across Europe and Asia Minor, dominated by the German, Austro-Hungarian, and Turkish empires, a railway which would give to Germany an outlet on the Persian Gulf close to India. Such an achievement, it was thought, would eventually break Britain's power in Asia.

Today that railroad is being completed.

Only a few miles from Mosul, the oil center in Iraq, need to be completed before Turkey's rail system is extended southeast to Baghdad, and beyond to the Persian Gulf. When this line is finished the Berlin-to-Baghdad railway will be a fact. But little publicity accompanies the building of the remaining track. One reason, of course, is that Turkey no longer travels in Germany's orbit, and thus Germans will receive no greater benefits from completion of the road than will any other European country. Another reason lies in the decline in the importance of railroads themselves. Thirty years ago the railroad offered as its chief advantage rapid transport. Today the airplane is much faster, while shipping lines remain, as always, much cheaper.

Beethoven in Palestine

Newspapers have devoted much space to the fighting between Jews and Arabs for control of Palestine during the past few years. But while it is true that clashes between Jews



READY FOR EMERGENCY

The Dutch have developed small cars which can travel on land or water. The vehicles will be useful in case it becomes necessary to flood the lowlands.

and Arabs have been frequent, it is also true that the majority of the peoples of the Holy Land have been able to live side by side without much trouble, and even with a certain amount of cultural interchange.

As an example there is the Palestine Orchestra, a symphony group founded by Jews in Tel-Aviv three years ago. An institution of high standards, this orchestra has featured on its programs some of the world's most accomplished musicians, such as Arturo Toscanini. Its significance does not lie in the fact that it plays regularly to Jews in Tel-Aviv, Jerusalem, and other Palestine cities, but that it plays to Arabs as well, and occasionally goes on tour to such predominantly Moslem centers as Egypt.

Another form of cultural interchange in Palestine exists in the form of the Jerusalem Broadcasting Company which regularly broadcasts in English, Hebrew, and Arabic, constantly interchanging programs and featuring performers and speakers from the heart of the Moslem world—Egypt, Syria, and Iraq. This does not prove, of course, that the Jewish-Arab claims to Palestine have been settled, or that the era of hard feeling is over. But it does indicate that Jewish-Arab enmity does not run so deep as reports of clashes between extremists on both sides sometimes lead one to believe.



REMINDER OF ANCIENT GLORY

The Appian Way in Rome, a road built by the ancient Romans, reminds Italians of their great past and fires their ambition for an equally great future.

Historical Backgrounds

By David S. Muzzey and Paul D. Miller

Italy's Position in the World War

IN the present conflict in Europe, the position of Italy is similar to that she held at the outbreak of the World War. Then, as now, she was allied with Germany and Austria-Hungary, but did not immediately enter the war against the Allies. She proclaimed her neutrality and after several months was won over by England and France. Neither in 1914 nor in 1939 could she be accused of being unfaithful to her alliance, for conditions arose in both instances which legally released her from her obligation to stand by her ally or allies.



DAVID S. MUZZEY

For a number of years prior to the outbreak of hostilities in 1914, Italy was a member, with Germany and Austria-Hungary, of the Triple Alliance. The most essential clause of that agreement provided that Italy and Austria must agree with the other before attempting to change conditions in the Balkans. When Austria issued her ultimatum to the government of Serbia—the immediate cause of the World War—she did not consult Italy; a violation of the alliance which released Italy from her obligation to assist Austria.

Will History Repeat?

Since the complete details of the agreement between Germany and Italy, popularly known as the Rome-Berlin axis, are not known, one cannot say with definiteness whether Italy has as good a case now as she had in 1914. However, on the surface at least, it would appear that the Russo-German agreement of last August had released Italy from her obligation to support Germany. One of the principal purposes of the German-Italian alliance was to combat communism, and Germany's repudiation of that objective enabled Italy to proclaim her neutrality without violating her treaty obligations to Hitler.

Whether history will further repeat itself to the extent that Italy will be won over to the Allied side in the present struggle is one of the great unknowns of today. Certainly a battle is being waged on the diplomatic front to achieve that result. England and France are leaving nothing undone in their attempt to woo Italy.

Perhaps the determining factor in Italy's decision to join the Allies in the last war was the fact that they promised her more than the Central Powers did. Her aid was practically purchased in 1915, when the secret Treaty of London was signed by England, France, Russia, and Italy. The

Allies promised to give Italy a considerable amount of land if she would join them. They promised her territories then belonging to Austria—part of the Austrian Tyrol—which would bring her boundary to the Brenner Pass, and thus place her in a stronger position to defend herself. They promised her a large part of the Dalmatian coast, including part of Albania and a protectorate over the rest of that country. The purpose of this concession was to enable Italy to control the Adriatic. She was to receive substantial slices of the Turkish and German empires in Africa.

Italy's Grievances

One of Italy's principal grievances since the end of the World War has been that she was cheated at the peace conference. The Italians felt that they had "won the war but lost the peace." It is true, of course, that the Italian soldiers had been soundly defeated by the Austrians at Caporetto in October 1917, and that they never recovered from this disaster. But they were nevertheless on the winning side of the war, and they felt they were entitled to the share of the spoils which had been promised to them by the secret treaty of 1915. In fact, at the Paris Peace Conference, the Italian delegation walked out in a rage as a result of the treatment meted out to their country. They felt that the League of Nations was established to guarantee Britain's and France's imperialistic gains, while they were "thrown a few scraps of desert in Africa."

Whatever the merits of Italy's claims, the fact remains that she did not receive as much as she had been promised by the Treaty of London. Her northern boundary was brought to the Brenner Pass, and Italians living under foreign rule were brought into the new Italy (as well as not inconsiderable numbers of Germans and Slavs). But she did not gain the Dalmatian coast. And while she was conceded territory in Africa, it was of little worth, consisting mostly of desert lands.

Italy considered her plight to be little better than that of one of the defeated nations. She smarted under what she regarded as the perfidious treatment of her false allies. Step by step, she sought to redress the wrongs inflicted upon her. She seized the port of Fiume, on the Adriatic, despite the fact that the Allies were determined that she should not have it. She established a virtual protectorate over Albania in 1926—more than a dozen years before she made that country a part of the Italian Empire. In 1935, she defied the powers of Europe by taking over Ethiopia in Africa, and lined up with Nazi Germany in order to strengthen her position and to realize further territorial ambitions.

Personalities in the News

A MONTH ago the American liner *City of Flint*, with a German prize crew in charge, left the harbor of Murmansk, Russia, and began to crawl southward along the Norwegian coast. While a steady stream of reports from all parts of the continent poured into American newsrooms, an equally steady stream poured into the State Department from the tall, blue-eyed woman who is United States minister to Norway. And when the ship was freed by Norwegian authorities in Bergen, Mrs. J. Borden Harriman, her gray hair stylishly bobbed, was on hand to confer with its captain.

Nor is this the first chapter of history which Mrs. Harriman has had a hand in writing. In 1906 she surprised her friends by becoming manager of the New York State Reformatory for Women in Bedford, a position which she ably filled for more than a decade. In the "suffragette" fight which finally brought about the Seventeenth Amendment to the Constitution, she was a prominent figure, and once led a parade down Fifth Avenue with placards demanding the vote for women. She campaigned for Woodrow Wilson, who was elected president in 1912 and who rewarded her the following year by making her the only woman member of the Federal Industrial Relations Commission.

During the war she was chairman of the Committee on Women in Industry of the Council for National Defense, and was active in Red Cross work. She was then firmly wedded to the Democratic party, and 20 years of Republican rule kept her out of public office. Mrs. Harriman did not endear herself to Mr. Roosevelt when she opposed his nomination in the Democratic convention of 1932, but she made amends four years later in Philadelphia. The resignation of Ruth Bryan Owen as minister to Denmark in 1937 left an opening for a woman in the diplomatic corps, and Mrs. Harriman was given a legation.

Norway, the first country to grant woman suffrage, welcomed "Madame Minister," and marveled at her ability to ski, for she is now in her late sixties. Norway also marvels at the parties she gives, for Mrs. Harriman is no beginner in the art of gracious entertainment. Her family was wealthy. She was sent to private schools, where her gay costumes won her the lasting nickname of "Daisy," and her father hired an ex-sergeant to drill her in posture. As Florence Hurst she was one of the belles of New York in the 90's, and in 1904, after her marriage to a banker, she founded New York's exclusive Colony Club. Harriman died 10 years later and his widow made Washington her home.

In Oslo Mrs. Harriman leads a busy life. She reads her mail and dictates replies during breakfast and spends the whole morning in diplomatic duties. Much of her afternoon is spent in gathering information and writing reports. The formal social life of the diplomatic corps occupies many of her evenings, but she still has time for skiing trips, for learning to weave on a hand loom, for collecting native recipes.



MRS. J. BORDEN HARRIMAN

ONE of the most striking political combinations in Europe today is that of Italy's foreign minister, Count Galeazzo Ciano, and his wife, Countess Edda Mussolini Ciano, the eldest daughter and favorite child of Il Duce. Between the two of them—with Count Ciano in the cabinet, and the countess in a position to gain Mussolini's ear for whatever project she has in mind—they exercise considerable influence upon the course of Italian politics.

Born in Livorno, northern Italy, in 1904, Ciano came of a distinguished family, but not of nobility. His father was Costanzo Ciano, the Italian admiral who destroyed the Austrian Adriatic fleet during the World War, and a national hero. Both Galeazzo and his father befriended and supported Mussolini 20 years ago, when Italian Fascism was no more than a subversive movement of malcontents. Both accompanied Mussolini in his famous march on Rome in 1922, and both were remembered by him after his rise to power. The elder Ciano became secretary of transportation, while Galeazzo finished his studies at a law school in Rome, after which he entered the diplomatic service and was sent to Rio de Janeiro.

While the two Cianos were calling upon Mussolini one day, Galeazzo met the Duce's bright-eyed daughter, Edda, on vacation from a fashionable school in Florence. They were married in 1930, but not, however, until Mussolini had ensured the title of countess for his daughter by arranging to have the elder Ciano made the Count di Cortellazzo. From then on young Ciano's rise was rapid. As a diplomat,



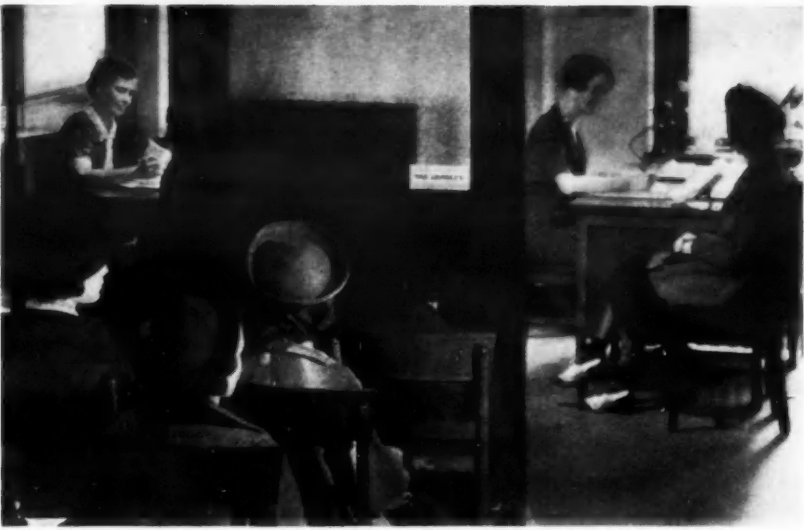
ACME AND EUROPEAN

COUNT AND COUNTESS GALEAZZO CIANO

head of the Italian propaganda bureau, leader of an Italian bombing squadron in Ethiopia, and more recently as foreign minister, Ciano has been extremely well publicized and has familiarized himself with many phases of politics and administration. As foreign minister, especially, he has been constantly in the limelight.

Although one of the first principles of Fascism is that women should remain in the home, the countess has engaged actively in Italian politics and proved to be of great aid to her husband. Shrewd, ambitious, as strong-willed as her father, she is believed by some to have more brains and initiative than her husband. For one thing, she is said to be the only person in Italy (excepting the king) who dares to say "no" to Mussolini. Countess Ciano is about 30 years old and the mother of two children.

The two Cianos were among the first and most persistent supporters of the policy of cooperation with Germany. Countess Ciano traveled to Germany several times on political missions, and her influence was given recognition in Germany when Field Marshal Goering named his baby daughter after her. It is believed that Galeazzo Ciano received a jolt from Hitler this past summer, and has modified his views somewhat. Whether this is true or not, neither of the Cianos seems to have modified the determination that Galeazzo is to be the successor of Mussolini. He has given impetus to speculation concerning this by adopting Mussolini's walk, his mode of dress, and his favorite pose—with arms akimbo, head back, and jaw thrust out. In Italy it is common to hear people speak of Count Ciano as "Il Ducellino" (the "little Duce").



COURTESY BOARD OF EDUCATION, DETROIT
SEEKING EMPLOYMENT

Commission Advocates Federal Program for Youth of America

PROBABLY no problem confronting young people today is causing greater concern and uneasiness than that of finding jobs. Those who are still in school face the unpleasant prospect of not being able to find work when they have completed their studies, and those who have completed their studies, millions of them, have come face to face with the grim reality of unemployment. The bitter truth is that the highest percentage of unemployment in the country today exists among young people. One-third of the nation's unemployed workers are young people between 15 and 24 years of age.

It is with this pressing problem that the American Youth Commission of the American Council on Education has been grappling during the last few years. The Commission is a nongovernmental organization which has been conducting a series of studies in the field with the object of working out a comprehensive program for the care and education of American youth. It believes that the problem of finding jobs for young people is immediate and demands drastic action. "Whether in war or at peace," it declares, "any nation interested in self-preservation must see to it that the young have a proper chance to grow into useful citizens."

If this problem is to be solved, the Youth Commission believes, the federal government will have to step into the breach by providing jobs for young people through a special program of public works. However great the improvement in business may be during the coming months, it will be insufficient to provide jobs for all the unemployed youth. "While it seems probable," the Commission declares, "that business will be stimulated by war purchases, the most optimistic estimates indicate only two or three million new jobs for the many millions of unemployed workers." The Commission believes that the remaining unemployment will be concentrated heavily in the lower age groups. "We now have a generation of youth containing an unusually high proportion without work experience or training. The major upswing in business may create an acute shortage of skilled and semiskilled labor without making it possible to use several million young people who have never learned either the habits or the skills required in modern industry."

From the standpoint of the national safety, continued unemployment is dangerous, in the opinion of the Commission, for it may lead to a desire for participation in the war on the part of idle young people. As the Commission remarks: "The continued pressure of unemployment on youth, in the midst of a war boom, will add to the danger of drifting into active participation in the war."

The Commission offers a few suggestions about the type of work which might be undertaken by the federal government to provide jobs for unemployed youth. It believes it undesirable to compel young people to attend school above the age of

16 if they would prefer to work. "Above the age of 16, many young people who would benefit from the training of a job would be wasting their time in school." A combination might be made between part-time schooling and part-time employment to bridge the years "between full-time school and full-time job." As to the general nature of such a program, the Commission outlines the following:

Public work for young people should be planned with special regard to its educational quality. It should be superintended by persons who are competent to train young people in good work habits as well as in specific skills. It should be carried on in a spirit that will give to the young worker a sense of being valued by and valuable to his country. Finally, it should provide an opportunity to try various kinds of work, so that the young person may find his own aptitudes and abilities and may be given some guidance in preparing for private employment in a field where he can be most useful and successful.

In addition to all types of conservation activities and the construction of useful public buildings, one type of work which would be a true service to the community and which should be greatly expanded would consist of producing the goods and services which are needed by the young people themselves and by others who are unemployed and in need. The Commission does not regard this as competition with private business, although it may be so considered by some persons. In any event, it is far preferable to unemployment or to the levels of taxation which would be necessary to support a decent level of subsistence for those in need if they are not to be allowed to do anything for themselves.

The Commission frankly recognizes the fact that such a program would increase the expenditures of the federal government, but it believes such action to be imperative if serious consequences are to be avoided. "In the present critical situation," it says, "it is imperative that none of the human resources of the nation be wasted through haphazard and inefficient methods of vocational selection, preparation, and employment. The provision of adequate vocational guidance, training, and work experience now takes on even more than its ordinarily high importance. Vocational guidance should be based on sound studies of the outlook for employment in the various occupations. On the basis of such studies, every young person should be assisted to determine what work he can do best, should be enabled to obtain the necessary training and experience for that work, and should be aided to get a successful start in it."

"Society in each generation," the report concludes, "has an obligation to provide for youth full opportunities for vocational exploration, training, and public service. The existence of a world crisis, by making clear to the nation the need for internal as well as external strength, serves only to emphasize this present obligation. Much time has been lost, and too many young people already have a history of frustration and wasted years. There is all the more reason for strengthening this weak point in the national fabric as soon as possible, now that its dangerous nature is evident."

• Vocational Outlook •

Pharmacy

PHARMACY is a profession which offers to young men of moderate means and scientific turn of mind an excellent opportunity for steady employment and a high return on a relatively small investment. There are approximately 105,000 registered pharmacists in the country today, not counting some 85,000 assistants and drug clerks. It is estimated on good authority that the annual demand for pharmacists is double the annual supply of 2,000 qualified graduates, and this figure makes pharmacy one of the least crowded of all professions. Possibly a tenth of the practicing pharmacists are employed in manufacturing drugs, but the overwhelming majority work in drugstores.

Drugstores employ pharmacists to prepare prescriptions, handle the stock of drugs, and answer questions of a general medical nature, but it should be remembered that more and more remedies are being made up by large manufacturing concerns and that the druggist is therefore spending more of his time selling miscellaneous items over the counter.

But if the drugstore pharmacist has less use for his particular knowledge there is also an increasing demand for skilled chemists in the big medicine houses, making up standard preparations and perfecting new medicinal cures. In this work there is always the chance that a pharmacist will stumble onto a formula and devise a new patent medicine that will yield him a large income. Other pursuits, such as drug salesman or teacher, are open to the pharmacist, and there are positions awaiting him in the government. Eighty-five per cent of the 65,000 drugstores in the country are privately owned, and with capital of anywhere from \$1,500 to \$5,000 it is possible to set up a store. This should be done only after a close study of local needs, however, and considerable business ability will be needed.

Only four per cent of the nation's pharmacists are women, and although the number is increasing and all but two training schools admit women, this is still regarded as a man's profession. One reason is that many states have laws limiting the number of hours women can work or keeping them from working at night. Most women pharmacists are consequently employed in hospital dispensaries. Some authorities also hold that the physical exertion required is harmful to women.

The personal qualities necessary for pharmacy include honesty and a sense of ethical morality, a wide range of miscellaneous scientific information, and sufficient poise to win the confidence of customers. Training for the profession can begin in

school. The Office of Education's booklet, "Pharmacy," (Guidance Leaflet No. 14, Superintendent of Documents, Washington, D. C., price: five cents) advises students to "elect, if possible, courses in physics, chemistry, botany, biology or zoology, and physiology, as a part of their high school work."

As public health standards mount, state and professional requirements are becoming more exacting. All the nation's 69 colleges require for entrance a high school diploma, and those which belong to the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy award degrees only to students who have been in residence for four years. In addition, most states require from one to four years of experience in retail drugstores, over and above the degree, before considering a candidate's application for license, and even then demand that he pass state examinations. But the picture is not so black as it seems. It is estimated that exclusive of clothes and traveling expenses, a boy can attend a college of pharmacy for \$650 a year, and figures show that 90 per cent of the students in these colleges earn their own expenses. These students are naturally preferred by drugstore operators, and are thus able to make from \$12 to \$18 a week while fulfilling at the same time their state "experience" requirement. (For the names, fees, and requirements of these colleges, see the leaflet quoted above.)

Pharmacists' earnings are smaller than those of successful doctors and dentists, but



OLD MASTERS' ASSOC.
THE PHARMACY

pharmacists begin to work when young medical men of the same age still have years of medical school and internship ahead of them; they pay less for their education and can earn a larger proportion of their expenses themselves. A graduate who has been registered may expect to start at a salary of \$100 a month. Small towns often offer the opportunity of starting drugstores.

Do You Keep Up With the News?

(For answers to the following questions, turn to page 8, column 4)

1. In the same week that the Allies and the United States celebrated the 1918 Armistice, the U. S. S. R. celebrated the Bolshevik Revolution of 19.....
2. When the men elected in the last elections have taken office, all but one of these states will have a senator or governor named Johnson: (a) California, (b) Ohio, (c) Mississippi, (d) Kentucky.
3. A gold lode worth \$60,000 a ton has been discovered in (a) California, (b) Washington, (c) Iowa, (d) Georgia.



4. Sulfanilamide has the unique record among drugs of never having caused a death. True or false?
5. The outstanding reference work on the world's navies, of which the 1939 edition has just been published, goes by one of these titles: (a) "Jane's Fighting Ships," (b) "Simone's Ship Secrets," (c) "The Nancy Naval Almanac," (d) "Betty's Battleships."
6. What famous figure in American crime

- was recently released from a federal prison?
7. What costly step was recently taken by the Netherlands with a view to protection against possible invasion?
8. Sir John Simon recently emerged from comparative obscurity to read a speech prepared by Mr. Chamberlain. What American cabinet member holds the post equivalent to Sir John's in the British cabinet?
9. The death of gives President Roosevelt the opportunity of appointing a fifth justice to the Supreme Court.
10. Three Polish destroyers are now serving with the British navy. True or false?
11. Admiral Byrd is taking "Penguin I" to the South Pole region with him. It will be useful because it is (a) his huge "laboratory-on-wheels," (b) his airplane, (c) the name of his Eskimo cook, (d) the ship he will travel on.
12. Which is the larger item on the national budget this year, relief or national defense?
13. King Leopold of the Belgians and Queen Wilhelmina of the Netherlands recently made news by (a) manning their adjacent borders, (b) announcing that they intended to marry, (c) offering their services as mediators in the war, (d) signing treaties with England.
14. Government pressure recently forced Moe Annenberg to close down his "News Service," which was allegedly aiding gamblers by supplying them with news.
15. Is it illegal for an agent of a foreign government to disseminate propaganda in this country?

Crime in the United States

(Concluded from page 1, column 1)

shall continue in the future, as we have in the past, to describe and discuss them in THE AMERICAN OBSERVER.

We shall not undertake this week to deal with all phases of the problem of crime prevention, but will suggest several lines of action which may be followed immediately by the readers of this paper; by the youth of America.

There is one line of attack upon crime which you may follow very effectively, probably more effectively than older citizens can. You may help to prevent the crime army from recruiting new members, and if it does not get new recruits from young people of about your own age, the army will, after a while, dwindle away.

Mr. Hoover points out that one-fifth of all the crime in the United States is committed by "persons not yet old enough to vote, by those not even out of their 'teens,' by those who often are not even past high school age." Among the young people of your own age are the future criminals of America and some of the present criminals. The leaders of the future are also there. Your job is to help create conditions and opinions in your school and community which will keep youth from joining the crime army. Here is a suggested program for you:

Steps to Take

1. Create a feeling in your school that dishonesty of every kind is hateful and disgraceful. This can be done. You and other students who abhor crime and who believe in honesty and honor and decency can do it. Speak out against cheating and the destruction of property and petty thievery and every violation of the rights of others. If all of you who believe in absolute honesty will declare yourselves on every occasion you will help to build a public opinion to the effect that every form of dishonesty and of disobedience to rules and law is disgraceful. No one will think that such things are "smart." Avoid cynicism. Do not for a moment tolerate wrongdoing or give the impression that you think it is either "smart" or "cute." If such a state of healthy opinion prevails in the school, the weaker and more suggestible or sorely tempted students are less likely than at present to fall into habits of crime.

If, on the other hand, large numbers of students give the impression that they think that most anything is all right that one can "get away with," students who, through their home environment or through other influences, lean toward crime, will find it easy to slip into criminal ways. The responsibility of decent and law-abid-

ing students is, therefore, extremely great.

2. When any of your fellow students drop out of school before having finished the high school course, you should be concerned about it, for young people who are out of school are much more likely to join the crime army than those who are continuing their work. Find out why the out-of-school young people in your community have dropped out. From among your members, you may appoint a committee to study this problem and to see whether there is any way to bring the young people back to the school. Your teacher or your principal will, no doubt, cooperate with you in this study. You may find that there is something the student council can do about it, if you have a student council. Perhaps those who quit school would come back if courses more to their liking could be found for them. If they do not come back to school, it is possible that they might be directed to the local public employment office, if there is one in the community. Perhaps they might get work in the Civilian Conservation Corps. Possibly something could be suggested if your committee would discuss the matter with officers of the Chamber of Commerce or Rotary or Lions clubs.

3. Make an investigation to determine whether there are sufficient recreational facilities in the community so that all of the young people may be well served by them. Are there playgrounds in the different sections of the city? Is there a swimming pool? Is there a public library? Are there clubs of different kinds which will appeal to young people of a variety of interests?

If the recreational facilities are not adequate you may do something about it. You can have as much influence in securing for your community the recreational opportunities which it needs as older citizens have. Perhaps you can have even more influence and you should use it at once. Here again you may appoint a committee and this committee may discuss the problem with members of your school faculty, with officers of the service clubs of your community, with the city officials, your editor, and your civic and political leaders.

How important recreational opportunities are is indicated by the experience of a city which was studied in a recent survey. Until a few years ago it had few playgrounds and swimming pools. Even if boys and girls had tried, they would not have found room through the existing facilities to play and engage in sports. Later a number of supervised playgrounds were opened. More recreational areas were built and a swimming pool was constructed. Here

is one result: In 1931, 464 juvenile offenders were brought to court, and in 1937 the number had fallen to 179.

4. Make a study of the various agencies of the community other than the schools which are in a position to help boys and girls to get into the right ways of life. Among these agencies are the Y.M.C.A., the Y.W.C.A., the Y.M.H.A., the Boy Scouts, 4-H clubs, and young people's organizations associated with the churches. Help support and promote the growth of these agencies.

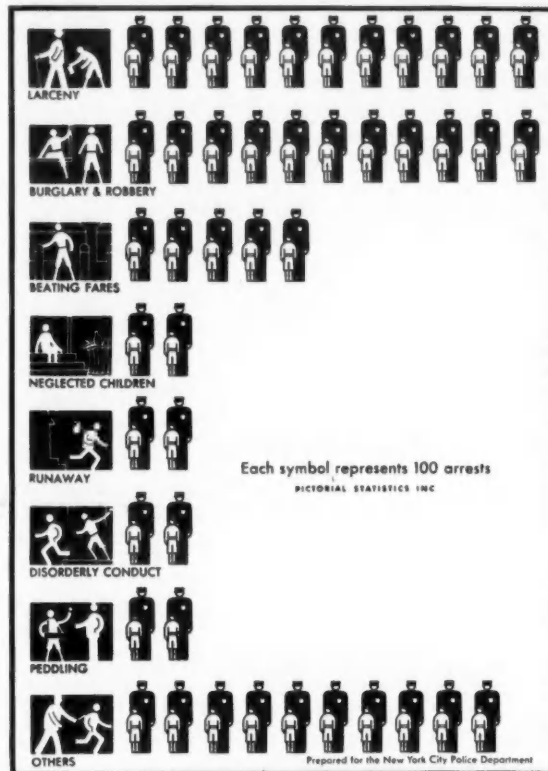
In many communities there are also organizations sponsored by the municipal police. In Boston, a Junior Police Corps was organized because one boy who was continually in trouble had said that he would "like to be a copper." He told the police commissioner that "they're important and people think they're brave." Today more than 5,000 boys, from 12 to 16 years old, belong to the corps. They learn every detail of police work, including a knowledge of the city's laws, and why these laws were made. From time to time, the boys and the police compete with each other in a variety of sports. Whenever a member violates the corps' rules, he may be suspended for a while.

This activity of the Boston police is duplicated in part in other cities by the Boys' Clubs of America and the Big Brother Leagues, which are sponsored by police departments. The officers know that boys who are in trouble either fear or hate the "cops." Today, in 330 cities there are over 300,000 members in these clubs, where boys and officers become friends. And the members are kept so busy during their leisure that they do not have time for trouble. Most of the club activities center around a sports program, which may include boxing, wrestling, basketball, football, baseball, track, and swimming. Some of the clubs have reading rooms and hobby centers, and several groups have their own bands and orchestras.

Crime and Politics

5. Keep in mind the fact that there is a close tie-up in many communities between crime and politics. The work of law enforcement is not carried on effectively. In many places little effort is made to break up criminal gangs and to bring offenders to justice. The reason is that those who profit by crime take a very active part in politics. They control a great many votes. They would not control enough votes to carry elections if all the honest, honorable, and law-abiding citizens go to the polls and work actively for the candidates they consider to be best. But if the law-abiding citizens who have no axes to grind and who are not seeking special favors stay at home and pay little attention to local politics, the less desirable elements of the population carry the day in the primary elections. They nominate the law-enforcement officials in both parties. They are then ensured that law enforcement will be lax.

Young citizens in the schools should, therefore, begin at once to take an active interest in politics. They should study political methods. In many schools elections are held in the school on the same day that the elections occur in the community. These "mock" elections stimulate the interest of the students. If they get into the habit of voting in the school on election day, they are likely to go ahead with their habit and vote at the legal polling places after they become of age. If



Types of lawbreaking and arrests among youth during a year's period in New York City. The proportion of each offense is fairly typical of the nation as a whole. (From a New York City police chart by Pictorial Statistics.)

these mock elections are to be held in the schools, however, it is important that they be conducted on the days when there are primary elections in the community as well as general election day. The reason is that, from the standpoint of checking crime, primary elections, the elections at which candidates are nominated by the different parties, are as important, or more important, than the general elections when the candidates chosen by the different parties are voted upon.

If young citizens in the schools will carry out a program of this kind and if at the same time they study the great social problems which have so much to do with crime—problems like poverty, bad housing, unemployment, and so on—they can exert a very great influence in the war on crime. In this way they can make life and property safer for themselves and others in their communities and the nation.

Questions and References

1. What position does J. Edgar Hoover hold with the federal government?
2. List a number of the more important causes of crime in the United States.
3. Approximately what percentage of the crime in the United States is committed by persons not yet old enough to vote?
4. In what ways may students still in high school cooperate in the work of reducing crime in their communities?
5. What is the relationship between crime and politics in many parts of the country?

REFERENCES: (a) *They Are About to Die*, by Bruce Bliven, Jr., *The New Republic*, January 25, 1939, p. 336. (b) *Galahads of Tomorrow—Youth Serving Organizations*, by H. G. Leach, *Forum*, October 1938, pp. 145-146. (c) *Recreation and Crime*, by H. S. Waldman, *Recreation*, January 1939, pp. 547-551. (d) *Problems of Law Enforcement*, by J. Edgar Hoover, *Vital Speeches*, November 1, 1939, pp. 54-57.

PRONUNCIATIONS: Juan Almazan (hwa'n' al-ma-san'), Badoglio (ba-doe'lyoe), Italo Balbo (ee-tah'loe bal'boe), Manuel Camacho (ma-noo-el' ka-ma'choe), Lazaro Cardenas (la'sa-roe kar'day-nas), Caporetto (ka-poe-ret'toe), Galeazzo Ciano (ga-lay-at'-sue cha'noe), Cortellazzo (kor-tay-lat'soe), Il Duce (eel' doo'chay), Fiume (few'may), Rodolfo Graziani (roe-doe'foe grat-see-a'nee), Gobi (goe'bee), Goering (gu'ring—u as in burn), Livorno (lee-vor'noe), Mosul (moe-sool'), Murmansk (moor-mansk'), Pakhoi (bahk'hoi'), Salzburg (sahlt's'boorg), Sinkiang (sin'kyahng'), Tunisia (too-nish'ia), Umberto (oom-bair'toe), Venezia (veh-nay'tseca).

Answer Keys

Do You Keep Up With the News?

1. 1917; 2. (b); 3. (d); 4. false; 5. (a); 6. Al Capone; 7. dikes were opened; 8. Secretary Morgenthau; 9. Pierce Butler; 10. true; 11. (a); 12. defense; 13. (c); 14. racing; 15. no, provided he registers with the State Department.

Smiles

"What are we having for dinner?"
"Sponge cake, dear. I sponged the eggs from Mrs. Holmes, the flour from Mrs. Brown, and the milk from Mrs. Smith." —GERT

Tom: "My father was a great western politician in his day."
Bill: "What did he run for?"
Tom: "The border." —KABLEGRAM

First Owl: "Hullo! Why did you leave London?"

Second: "Those awful blackouts—couldn't get a wink of sleep." —PUNCH



"BAH! WHO'S BEEN PUTTING CRACKER CRUMBS IN MY BED?"
COLLIER IN BOYS' LIFE

"Oh-h-h, Sandy, that popcorn smells grand!"
"Aye, it does, lass. We'll go back and drive a wee bit closer to the stand." —SELECTED

Political Speaker: "I'm pleased to see this dense crowd here tonight."
Voice from back row: "Don't be too pleased. We ain't all dense!" —Des Moines REGISTER

It is reported that jellyfish get their jelly from the ocean currents. —ANSWERS

Fat Man (to motorist who bumped him): "Couldn't you have gone around me?"
Motorist: "I wasn't sure I had enough gas." —SELECTED

"When we were in Egypt we visited the pyramids and some of the stones were literally covered with hieroglyphics."
"I hope none of them got on you; some of those foreign insects are terrible." —CAPPER'S WEEKLY

"A case of love at first sight, I suppose?"
"No—second sight. The first time he saw her he didn't know she was an heiress." —ANSWERS

"Have you hair nets?"
"Yes, ma'am."
"Invisible?"
"Yes."
"Let me see some." —PUNCH